

INFORM ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ OT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Argentina

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DATE DISTR. 27 APR 1949

SUBJECT Government Efforts to Get Provincial Economic Aid

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Although Casa Rosada circles have expressed a degree of optimism about the future economic condition of Argentina, they view the present situation with extreme pessimism and admit that it will be a long time before the economy of Argentina will again be normal.
2. Dr. Roberto Antonio Ares, Secretary of Economy, and Dr. Ramon A. Cereijo, Minister of Finance, have been holding frequent meetings to discuss the project of obtaining funds from the provinces, and are exploring every possibility for acquiring funds to replenish large sums "borrowed" from the government pension fund.
3. In an effort to procure additional revenues, the Ministry of Finance has sent questionnaires, issued by order of President Peron, to all provincial governors and comptrollers ("interventores") to ascertain the amount of financial assistance and cooperation that the Federal government can expect from the provinces. The Casa Rosada stressed the urgent need for funds and requested answers within two weeks. Most governors answered by letter stating that it will be almost impossible to raise extra money by provincial taxation to aid the Federal government. As of 1 April no questionnaires had been returned to the government.

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